Periscope

Revue Neurologique

(XV Year, No. 5. March 15, 1907.)

1. A Case of Crossed Atrophy of the Cerebellum. ANDRE THOMAS and RENÈ CORNELIUS.
2. New Contributions to the Study of the Bone Reflexes. NOICA.

1. *A Case of Crossed Atrophy of the Cerebellum.*—The patient began having epileptic fits at the age of ten years, and after a particularly severe one at the age of forty-one years, he remained paralyzed on the left side of the body. At autopsy there was found a marked atrophy of the right frontal lobe, right parietal lobe and the second temporal convolution. The Rolandic region and the first temporal convolution were less affected. There was a marked atrophy of the left lobe of the cerebellum which affected more severely the quadrilateral lobe. Microscopic examination was made by serial sections of the brain and cerebellum.

2. *Study of the Bone Reflexes.*—Movements produced by percussing the schapoid bone, the internal malleolus and the posterior extremity of the fifth metatarsal in muscles innervated by the fifth lumbar root. In the upper limbs there are similar reflexes obtainable in hemiplegics and spastic paraplegics.

(XV Year, No. 6. March 31, 1907.)

1. Some Researches on the Transplantation of Nerve Ganglia. MARINESCO.
2. A Sign of Organic Paralysis of the Lower Limb: The Possibility of Elevating the Paralyzed Limb by Itself with the Impossibility of Simultaneously Elevating Both Lower Limbs. GRASSET.
3. Ocular Palsies by Arachnoid-labyrinthine Intoxications. BONNIER.

1. *Transplantation of Nerve Ganglia.*—Marinesco examined histologically nerve ganglia at various periods of time after transplantation, and found that within five hours the nerve cells showed signs of beginning degeneration, which progressed to complete disappearance. A few cells at the periphery of the ganglia may persist and even show regenerative changes, but later they also disappear. The cause of these regressive changes in the ganglia is the shutting off of the nutrition by interference with circulation of the blood and the severing of the connection of the cells with the centrifugal and centripetal fibers. The reason that the peripheral cells persist for a time is because they are more easily nourished by imbibition.

2. *A Sign of Organic Paralysis of the Lower Limb.*—The sign is sufficiently explained in the title of the paper. It is useful in differentiating organic hemiplegia from neuroses.

3. *Ocular Palsies.*—Apropos of a recent article in the *Revue Neurol.*, No. 3, 1907, concerning the production of abducens palsy by sub-arachnoid injections, Bonnier explains the mechanism of their production as fol-

lows: The sub-arachnoid space and the labyrinths are communicating and variations in pressure or chemical composition of the cerebro-spinal fluid affect the papilla of the labyrinth immediately. The most manifest symptom of labyrinthine irritation is oculomotor troubles. The most frequent of the reflex oculomotor troubles produced by irritation of the labyrinth are paralytic or spasmodic phenomena affecting the sixth pair of cranial nerves. In the cases referred to above, the injection of the toxic substance is followed by irritation of the labyrinth and reflex paralysis of the abducens.

C. D. CAMP (Ann Arbor, Mich.).

Psychiatrisch-Neurologische Wochenschrift

(June 16, 1906.)

1. The Question of Cost of Larger or Smaller Pavilions. DELBRÜCK.
2. Paresis in the Canton Luzern in the Period from 1873 to 1900. ELMIGER.

1. *Cost of Pavilions.*—After a somewhat lengthy mathematical and geometrical argument, the writer concludes that institutions should not be built solely on the basis of cost, but on the obtainable results of care from a psychiatric standpoint.

2. *Paresis in Luzern.*—The population of this canton was 134,000 in 1874 and 145,000 in 1909, mostly agricultural. During these twenty-eight years there were admitted to the asylum 91 paretics—74 men and 17 women. Of the men, only 6 were farmers. This is only a percentage of 3.8 as against 25 to 30 per cent. in the larger cities and industrial communities.

(June 23 and 30, 1906.)

1. Defects in the Prussian Statistics of Asylums for the Insane, Epileptics, Idiots, Weakminded and Nervous. GRUNAU.
2. Some Points about so-called "Moral Insanity." NÄCKE.

1. *Defects in Statistics of Prussian Asylums.*—(Continued.)

2. *Moral Insanity.*—The author believes that the cases of so-called "moral insanity" show defects in other spheres than the ethical. The symptoms are those of defect, and therefore the terms moral weakmindedness or idiocy are preferable to the term insanity. We should realize, however, that the condition is one of a disordered or disintegrated "psyche," showing the symptoms of moral defect in the foreground. He classifies the cases under three rubrics: 1. The weakminded; 2, the degenerate (superior degenerates), the largest group; 3, cases with mild, periodical anomalies of mood, the smallest group.

The author takes exception to the use of Lombroso's term "born criminal," and points out that man is a product of his make-up plus his environment, so we might as well speak of "born poets," "born directors," etc. He calls attention to the fact that the moral and the intellect in general develop together, but they often become dissociated, and the important problem of "moral insanity" is to understand the process of this dissociation as well as the "affect-disposition."

As to the treatment neither asylum nor prison is ideal. An asylum attached to a prison, or better yet a separate asylum is best. Castration he decries and calls attention to the possibility of causing thus perverse desires.